

Hiroshima and Nagasaki

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Photo taken in 1948, showing a view of the devastated city of Hiroshima in Japan, three years after the dropping of the first atomic bomb in a city. - AFP

This Agence France-Presse (AFP) package on the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombings has been compiled using the agency's text and photo archives, interviews with key players and links with and various official sites.

On August 6, 1945 at 8:15 am, a US B-29 bomber nicknamed "Enola Gay" dropped a 9,000-pound atomic bomb that exploded 600 meters (1,980 feet) above the ground. Built with a uranium 235 warhead, the bomb caused 140,000 deaths by the end of December 1945 according to generally accepted estimations.

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